IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): Coated sodium percarbonate particles comprising a sodium percarbonate core surrounded by at least one coating layer comprising at least one inorganic coating material, the coated particles having a content of available oxygen of at least 3 % by weight, and being fizzy to such an extent that 2 g of the coated particles dissolved in 50 ml of water at 20°C generate more than 0.4 ml of gas after 2 min.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The coated sodium percarbonate particles according to claim 12, being fizzy to such an extent that 2 g of the coated particles dissolved in 50 ml of water at 20°C generate at least 1 ml of gas after 2 min,

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The coated sodium percarbonate particles according to claim 12, being fizzy to such an extent that 1 g of the coated particles dissolved in 50 ml of water at 20° C generates at least 0.4 ml of gas after 2 min.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The coated sodium percarbonate particles according to claim 12, having a content of available oxygen of at least 10 % by weight.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The coated sodium percarbonate particles according to claim 12, wherein the inorganic coating material is selected from the group consisting of sodium silicate, sodium borate, boric acid, sodium carbonate, sodium sulfate, magnesium

sulfate and mixtures thereof.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): A process for the preparation of the coated sodium percarbonate particles of claim 12, comprising a first step in which the sodium percarbonate core particles are prepared, at least one subsequent coating step in which the core particles are coated with the coating material, and a heat treatment carried out between the first step and the subsequent step, or during the subsequent step, or after the subsequent step, the heat treatment being carried out by heating the particles up to an end temperature T and maintaining the particles during a period t at the end temperature T, T (expressed in °C) and t expressed in min corresponding to the formula:

$T \geq 0.000567\ t^2 - 0.24\ t + 114.490$ when T is up to 110°C, and

$T \geq -2\ t + 150$ when T is above 110°C.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 17, in which the end temperature T of the heat treatment ranges from 80 to 140°C.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 17, in which the period t of the heat treatment ranges from 5 min to 4 h.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 17, wherein the heat treatment is carried out in a fluid bed reactor in which the particles are fluidized by an upward flow of hot air.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): A process of preparing a detergent composition with active bleach, comprising adding the coated sodium percarbonate particles of claim 12, as active bleach constituent, in a detergent composition.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): ~~Detergent compositions~~ A detergent composition comprising the coated sodium percarbonate particles of claim 12 ~~as active bleach constituent~~.

Claim 23 (New): The detergent composition as claimed in claim 22, further comprising a zeolite.

Claim 24 (New): The detergent composition as claimed in claim 22, further comprising at least one of a builder, surfactant, anti-redeposition agent, soil suspension agent, bleach activator, optical brightening agent, soil release agent, suds controller, enzyme, fabric softening agent, perfume, colour and processing aid.

Claim 25 (New): The detergent composition as claimed in claim 24, further comprising a zeolite.